

Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Romney
Collins	Inhofe	Rosen
Coons	Johnson	Rounds
Cornyn	Jones	Rubio
Cortez Masto	Kaine	Sasse
Cotton	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cramer	King	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lankford	Shaheen
Cruz	Leahy	Shelby
Daines	Lee	Sinema
Durbin	Manchin	Sullivan
Enzi	McConnell	Sullivan
Ernst	McSally	Tester
Feinstein	Merkley	Thune
Fischer	Moran	Tillis
Gardner	Murkowski	Toomey
Graham	Murphy	Udall
Grassley	Perdue	Van Hollen
Hassan	Portman	Wicker
Hawley	Risch	Young
Hoeven	Roberts	

## NAYS—22

Baldwin	Heinrich	Schumer
Bennet	Hirono	Smith
Blumenthal	Markey	Stabenow
Brown	Menendez	Warner
Cantwell	Murray	Whitehouse
Casey	Peters	Wyden
Gillibrand	Reed	
Harris	Schatz	

## NOT VOTING—8

Booker	Isakson	Sanders
Burr	Klobuchar	Warren
Duckworth	Paul	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the Hahn nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

# EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO COMMEMORATE THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 150 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 150) expressing the sense of the Senate that it is the policy of the United States to commemorate the Armenian Genocide through official recognition and remembrance.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I further ask that the resolution be

agreed to; the preamble be agreed to; and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 150) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 9, 2019, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, we have just passed the Armenian genocide resolution recognition. It is fitting and appropriate that the Senate stands on the right side of history in doing so. It commemorates the truth of the Armenian genocide.

On Monday, we commemorated the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the victims of the crime of genocide and of the prevention of this crime. The UN General Assembly established this day of remembrance to commemorate and honor the victims of genocide and highlight efforts to combat and prevent genocide. Passing this resolution is a fitting tribute to this day of remembrance.

I have come to the floor on various occasions to talk about the history of the Armenian genocide. An Armenian priest, Krikoris Balakian, recorded some of the massacres against the Armenians. He said:

In Ankara and its surroundings, only a couple hundred miles east of Constantinople, the killing was done with "axes, cleavers, shovels, and pitchforks." It was like a slaughterhouse; Armenians were hacked to pieces . . . infants were dashed on rocks before the eyes of their mothers.

It was indescribable horror. Even when Armenians were supposedly deported, the conditions they were forced to live in made clear that Turkey's ultimate goal was to eliminate the Armenian people.

A visitor to one Turkish city in October of 1915 wrote: "The 16,000 deported Armenians who were living in the tents have been sent to Konia in cattle trucks. At night, while thousands of these unfortunate people, without food or shelter, shiver with cold, those brutes who are supposed to be their guardians attack them with clubs. And push them towards the station. Women, children, and old men are packed together in the trucks. The men have to climb on to the top of the trucks, in spite of the dreadful cold. Their cries are heart-breaking, but all is in vain. Hunger, cold, and fatigue, together with the Government's deeds of violence, will soon achieve the extermination of the last remnant of the Armenian people."

Henry Morgenthau, the U.S. Ambassador for Turkey, from 1913 to 1916, understood full well what was transpiring. He left his post in early 1916 because, as he later recalled, "My failure to stop the destruction of the Armenians had made Turkey for me a place of horror."

American diplomats like Henry Morgenthau were on the ground in Turkey, and they made heroic efforts to help the Armenian people, but here in Washington at the time, no one did anything in the face of this heinous crime.

As former UN Ambassador Samantha Power wrote in her Pulitzer Prize-winning book, "A Problem from Hell," "America's nonresponse to the Turkish horrors established patterns that would be repeated."

As my colleague from Texas, my co-sponsor who has been such a stalwart advocate with me, has very often noted, this is the first genocide to be recorded in this century. We know all too well the horrors in the 20th century with the Holocaust and other genocides around the world. So here in the Senate today, we break those patterns. We join the House and voted to do so by passing a resolution affirming the facts of the genocide, 405 to 11. Today, the Senate shows the same resolve.

I am deeply grateful to Senator CRUZ for his stalwart leadership on this issue and to the 27 other Senators from both parties who have cosponsored the resolution and demonstrated their commitment to the truth, and the truth finally will set us free.

I am thankful that this resolution has passed in a time in which there are still survivors of the genocide. We will be able to see that the Senate acknowledges what they left.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I thank my colleague and friend, the Senator from New Jersey, for his powerful remarks, and I rise today and celebrate a bipartisan achievement—an achievement of the Senate; an achievement for truth; an achievement for speaking the truth to darkness, for speaking the truth to evil, for speaking the truth to murder, for speaking the truth to genocide.

This journey has been a long journey. Senator MENENDEZ has been fighting this fight a long time. I have been proud to stand by his side. This is the third week in a row we have come to the Senate floor seeking to pass this resolution. I am grateful that today we have succeeded.

The Menendez-Cruz resolution affirms U.S. recognition of the Armenian genocide. It has been far too long in coming. From 1915 to 1923, the Ottoman Empire carried out a forced deportation of nearly 2 million Armenians, of whom 1.5 million were killed. It was an atrocious genocide. That it happened is a fact and undeniable reality.

In fact, the very word "genocide" literally means the killing of an entire people, and it was coined by Raphael Lemkin to describe the horrific nature of the Ottoman Empire's calculated extermination of the Armenians. It is why we have the horrid word "genocide" in our English language.

Over 100 years ago, the world remained silent as the Armenian people